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March 27, 1969

Vice Admiral George M. Davis, USN
Chief, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery
Department of the Navy
23rd and E Streets, N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20390

Dear Admiral Davis:

Now that the Department of State has completed the preparation of the U.S.S. Liberty personal injury claims for presentation to the Government of Israel, I wish to express our appreciation for the valuable assistance provided by Lieutenant Commander Victor A. Swindall, Physical Qualifications and Medical Records Division, in obtaining the medical information on which the claims for compensation were based.

Since the attack on the U.S.S. Liberty on June 8, 1967, many of the more serious cases have been treated for their injuries at a number of service medical facilities. In a few cases, therapy is still going on. Since the nature and severity of the injuries suffered and the extent to which permanent impairment resulted are the basis for computing the compensation to be claimed, it was necessary for us to have records of the examinations of the injured men during the entire period they were under treatment. Moreover, in some cases our medical consultants requested new examinations of the men in order to cover all compensable aspects of their injuries.

Commander Swindall was responsible for obtaining this extensive medical information, and he did so with efficienty and thoroughness. His energy in following up

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requests for information reduced delays to a minimum and materially expedited the preparation of the claims. Although we had to call on him frequently for help, he was invariably cooperative and considerate.

I consider it fortunate that an officer of Commander Swindall's ability was appointed to work with us on the claims.

Sincerely yours,

Ernest L. Kerley
Assistant Legal Adviser

L:L/C:ELKerley:ams

cc/ Cmdr. Swindall

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